

EXHIBIT

8



PRESCRIPTION DRUG TRAFFICKING & ABUSE TRENDS



November 16-17, 2013
Pharmacy Diversion Awareness Conference (PDAC)
Louisville, KY

Alan G. Santos, Associate Deputy Assistant Administrator,
Operations Division, Office of Diversion Control,
U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration



Disclosure Information

I have no financial relationships to disclose !!



Rx Trends Outline

- Scope of the Problem
- The Costs
- What People are Abusing
- The “CSA” – Checks & Balances
- Where People are Getting Their Drugs
(Evolution of Problem & Pill Mills)

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OBJECTIVES

1. Identify current trends in pharmaceutical controlled substance abuse.
2. Describe the impact pharmacy diversion has on communities.



PRE-TEST

1. What is the most commonly prescribed controlled substance in the U.S?
 - a. Oxycodone
 - b. Methylphenidate
 - c. Hydrocodone/APAP
 - d. Alprazolam



PRE-TEST

2. Name four common methods of diversion.



PRE-TEST

3. What combination of drugs is referred to as the “trinity”?

- A) Hydrocodone, alprazolam, and carisoprodol
- B) Promethazine with codeine, methylphenidate and carisoprodol
- C) Hydromorphone, carisoprodol and buprenorphine
- D) Methadone, diazepam and tramadol



Prescription Drug Abuse & Trafficking Trends

OR

Responding to America's Prescription Drug Abuse Crisis

“When Two Addictions Collide”



SCOPE OF THE PROBLEM

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Mayo Clinic Study on Prescription Drugs

atlanta.cbslocal.com/2013/06/19/study-70-percent-of-americans-on-prescription-drugs-one-fift

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NEWS

Study: 70 Percent Of Americans On Prescription Drugs

June 19, 2013 12:58 PM

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Rochester, Minn. (CBS ATLANTA) – Researchers find that nearly 70 percent of Americans are on at least one prescription drug, and more than half receive at least two prescriptions.

Mayo Clinic researchers report that antibiotics, antidepressants and painkiller opioids are the most common prescriptions given to Americans. Twenty percent of U.S. patients were also found to be on five or more prescription medications.

The study is uncovering valuable information

Research finds that nearly 70 percent of Americans are on at least one prescription drug, and more than half receive at least two prescriptions. (Getty Images)

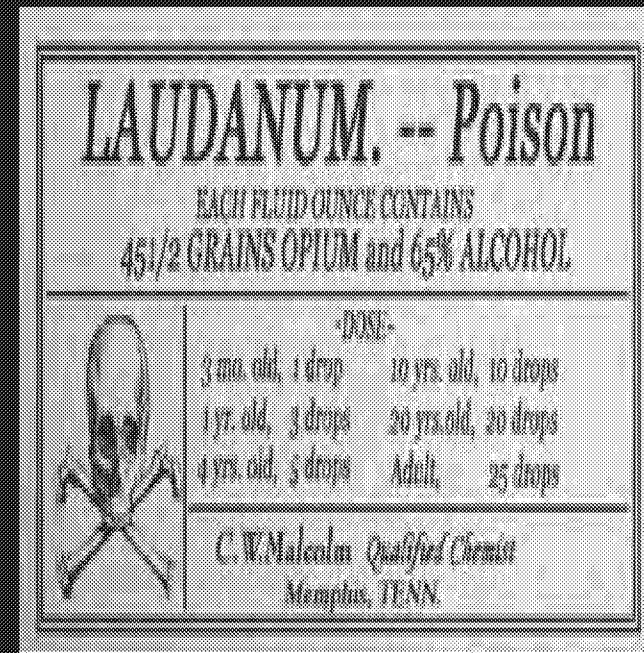
oked.com

- The three most common types of prescriptions are antibiotics, antidepressants, and painkiller opioids
- 70% of Americans are taking at least one prescription drug
- More than 50% are on at least two prescriptions

Source: Mayo Clinic Press Release, 6/19/2013

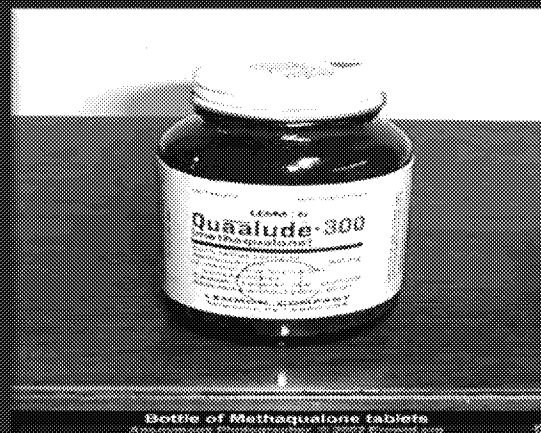


Not a New Problem

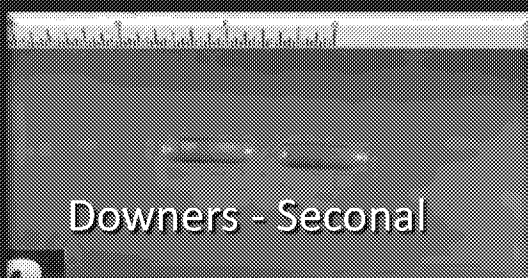




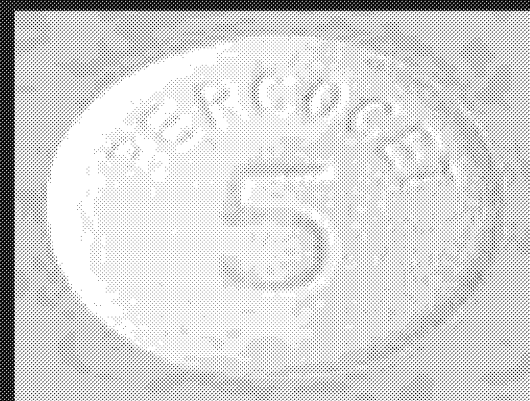
The 1960/70s/80s



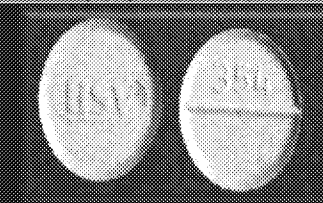
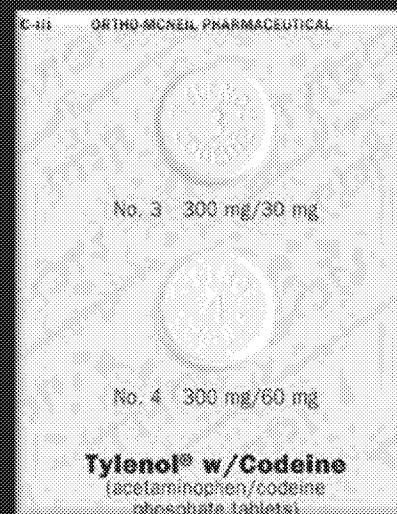
"Ts and Blues"



Hydromorphone



Oxycodone/APAP

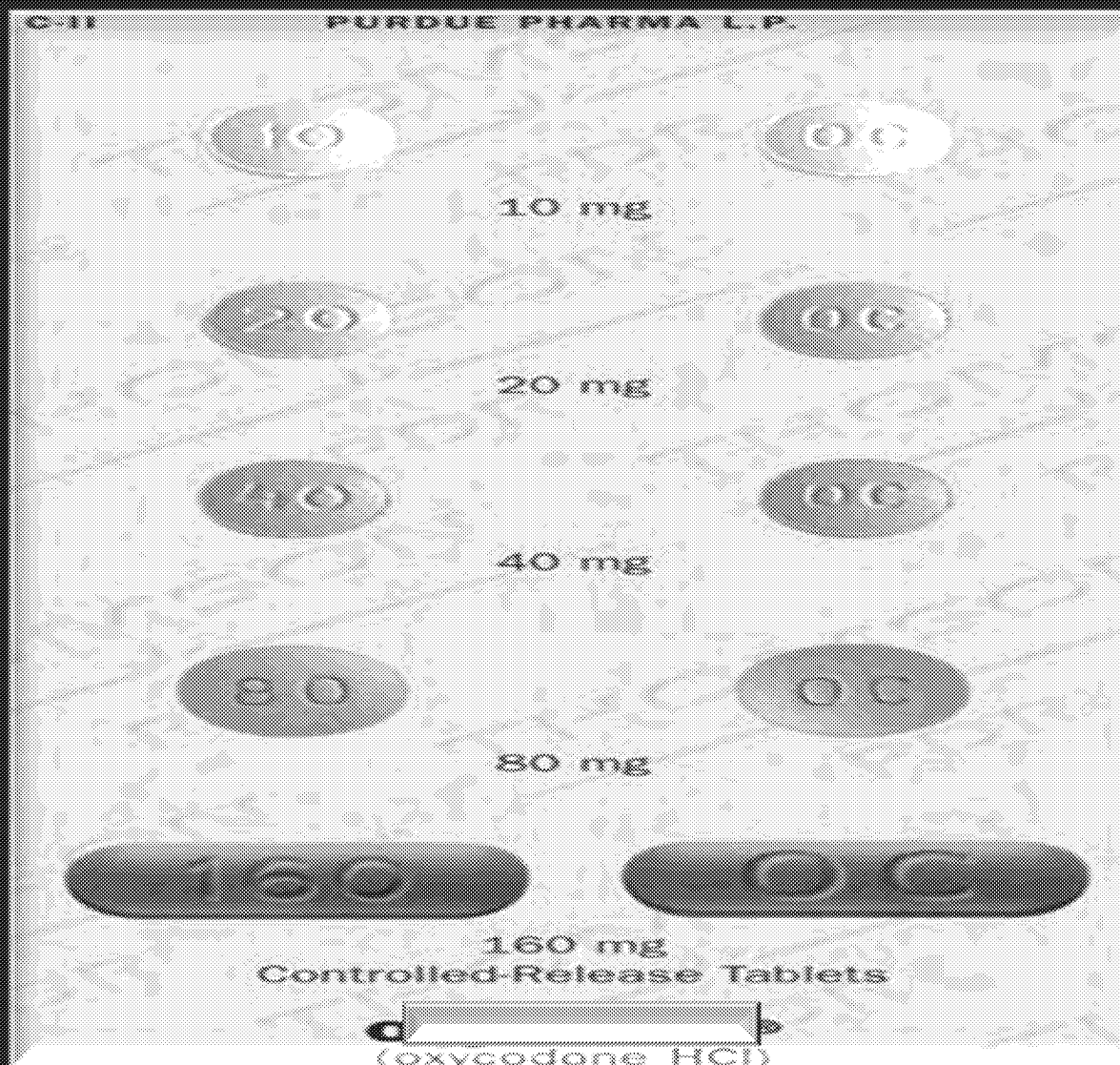


"Fours and Doors"



The 1990s

OxyContin





In 2010, approximately 38,329 unintentional drug overdose deaths occurred in the United States, one death every 14 minutes.

Of this number, 22,134 of these deaths were attributed to Prescription Drugs (16,651 attributed to opioid overdoses/ 75.2 %).

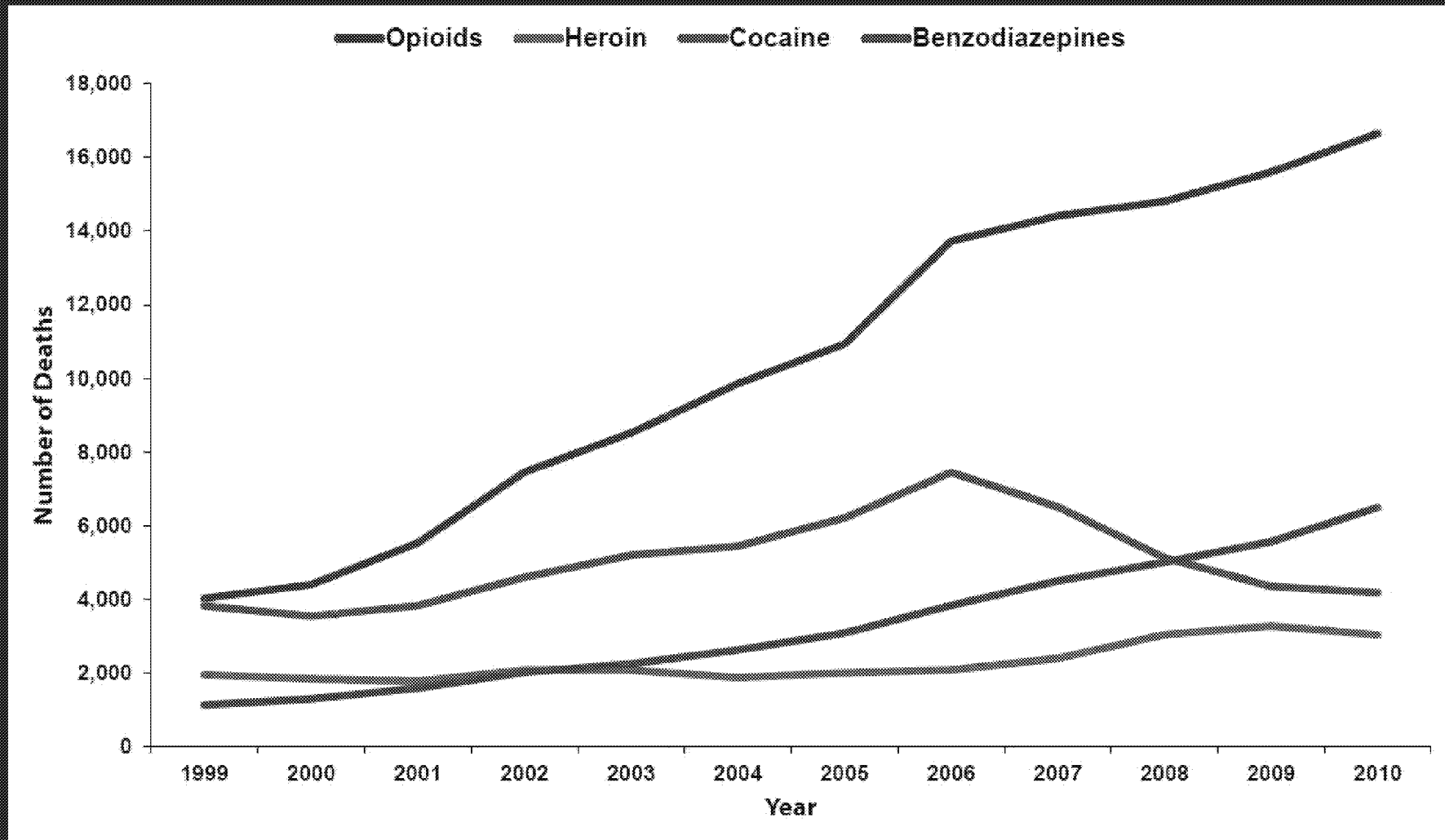
Prescription drug abuse is the fastest growing drug problem in the United States.

Source: CDC Drug Overdose Deaths in the United States, 2010 (October 2012)

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U.S. Drug Overdose Deaths by Major Drug Type, 1999-2010



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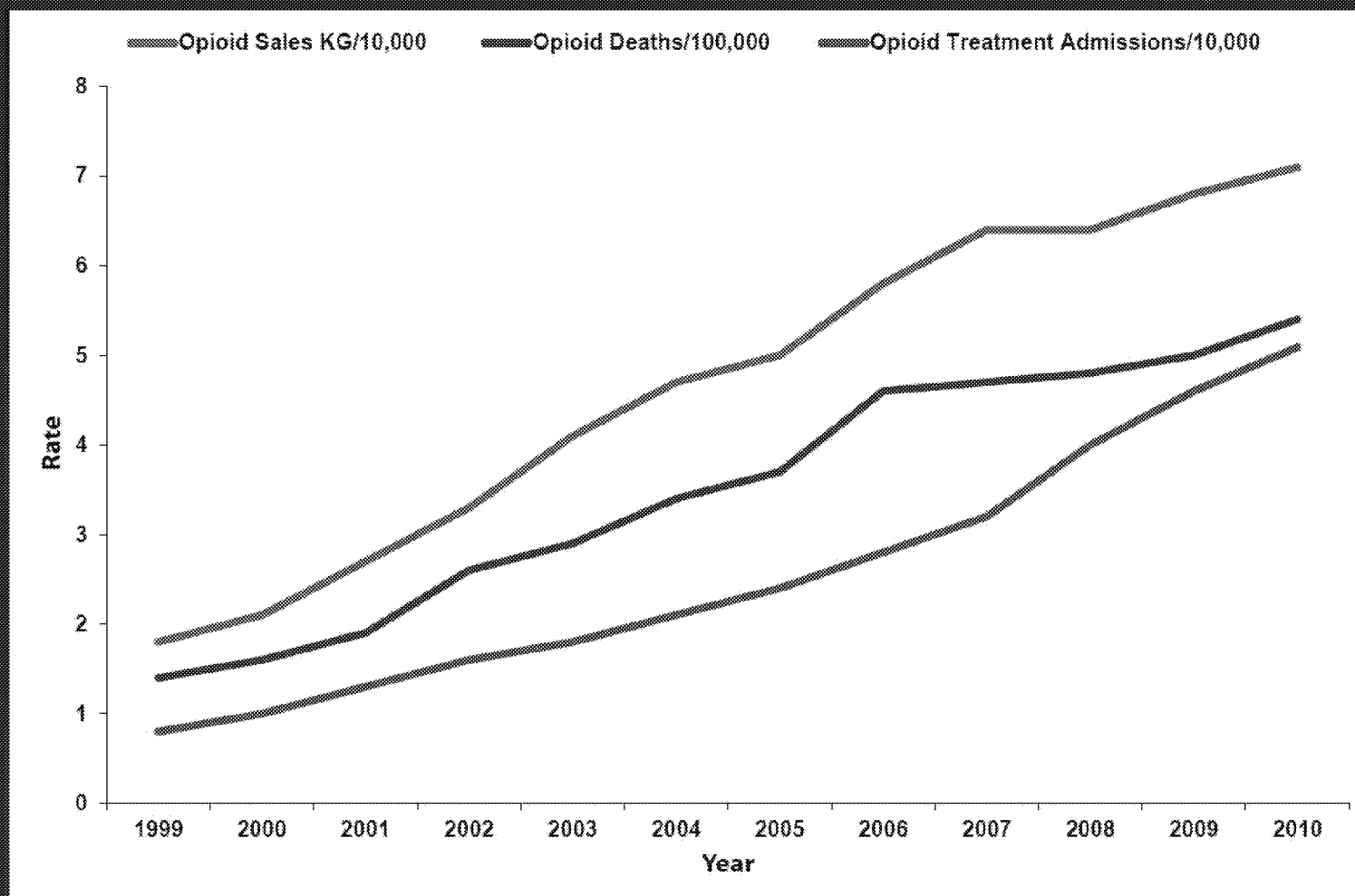
Source: CDC/NCHS, NVSS

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U.S. Rates of Opioid Overdose Deaths, Sales, and Treatment Admissions, 1999-2010



Source: National Vital Statistics System (NVSS),
DEA's Automation of Reports and
Consolidated Orders System, SAMHSA's
Treatment Episode Data Set

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Today's Perfect Storm

- Industry is producing a wider variety of controlled substance pharmaceuticals
- Use of Medicare / Medicaid or insurance to fund drug habits
- The Information / Electronic era (i.e., web sites such as Erowid & Bluelight, social networking, blogging, twitter, text messaging, & chat rooms for instant exchanges of information)

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2010 Current Users (Past Month) 2011

ANY ILLICIT DRUG:

22.6 million

MARIJUANA: 17.4 million

PSYCHOTHERAPEUTIC
DRUGS: 7 million

COCAINE: 1.5 million

Methamphetamine 353,000

Heroin: 239,000

ANY ILLICIT DRUG:

22.5 million

MARIJUANA: 18.1 million

PSYCHOTHERAPEUTIC
DRUGS: 6.1 million

COCAINE: 1.4 million

Methamphetamine 439,000

Heroin: 281,000

Source: 2010 & 2011NSDUH



Prescription Drug Abuse

More Americans abuse prescription drugs than the number of:

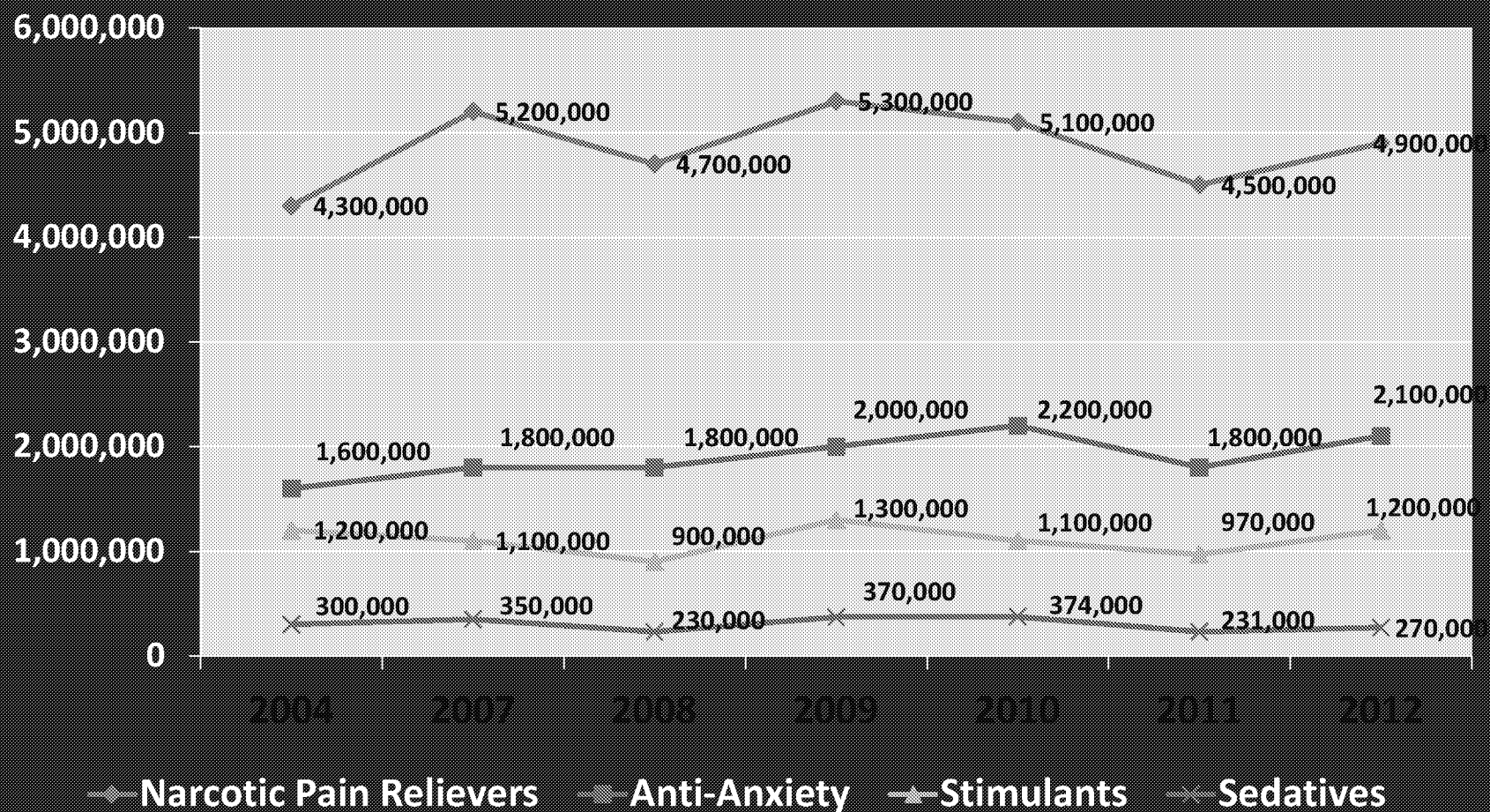
Cocaine, Hallucinogen, Methamphetamine &
Heroin abusers

COMBINED!!

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Scope and Extent of Problem: Past Month Illicit Drug Use Among Persons Aged 12 or Older

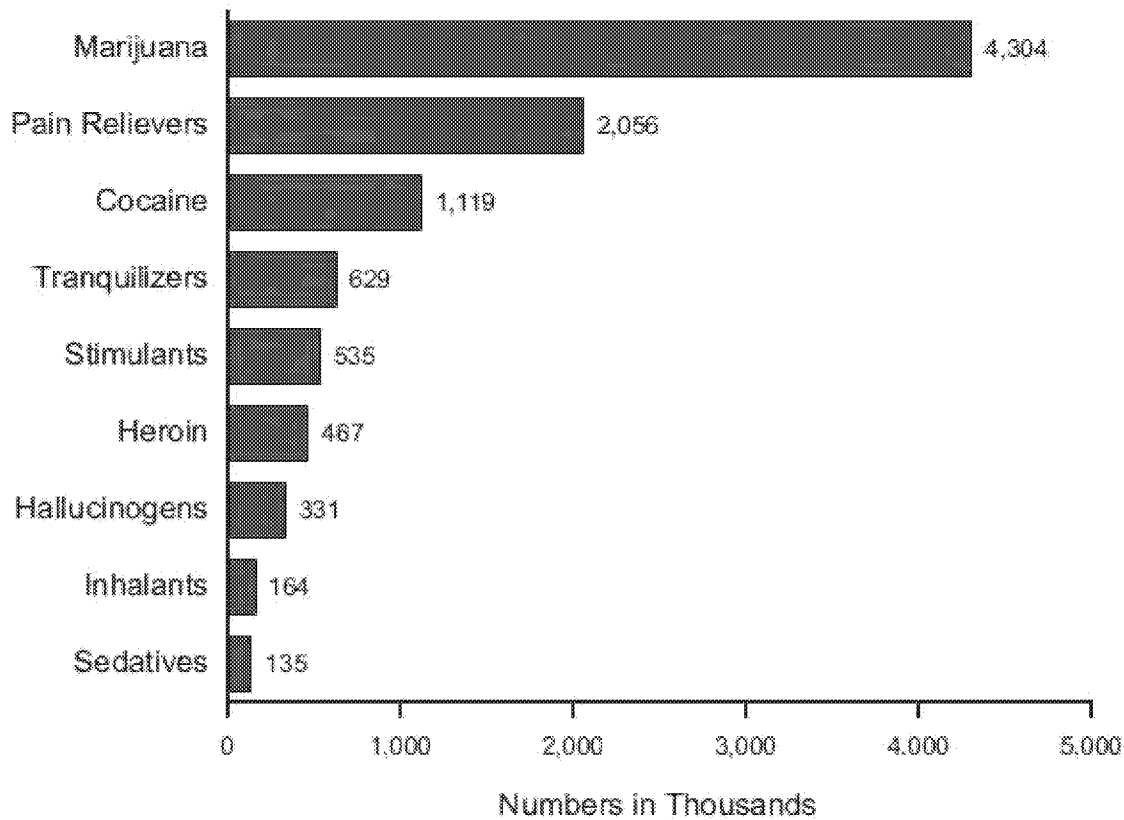


Source: 2004, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012 National Survey on Drug Use and Health



Past Year Initiates 2012 – Ages 12 and Older

**Figure 7.2 Specific Illicit Drug Dependence or Abuse
in the Past Year among Persons Aged 12 or
Older: 2012**

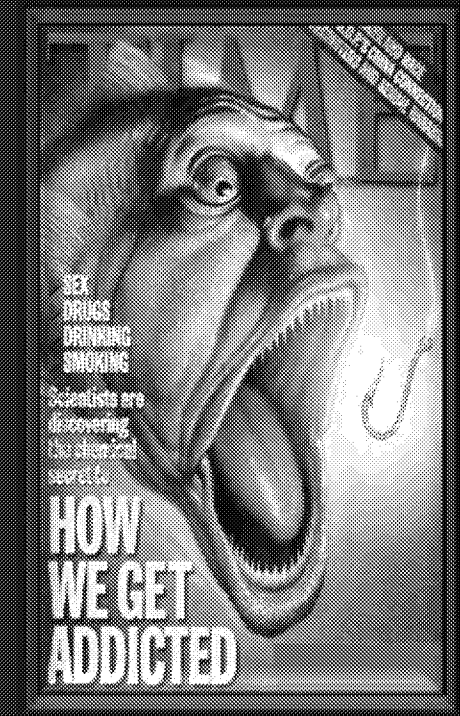


SOURCE: 2012 National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) published September 2013 by the Dept of HHS/ Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)



National Abuse Facts

- In 2012, there were 2.4 million persons aged 12 or older who used psychotherapeutics non-medically for the first time within the past year, approximately 6,700 new initiates per day.*
- One in four teens (24%) reports having misused a prescription drug at least once in their lifetime (up from 18% in 2008 to 24% in 2012), which translates to about 5 million teens. That is a **33% increase** over a five-year period.



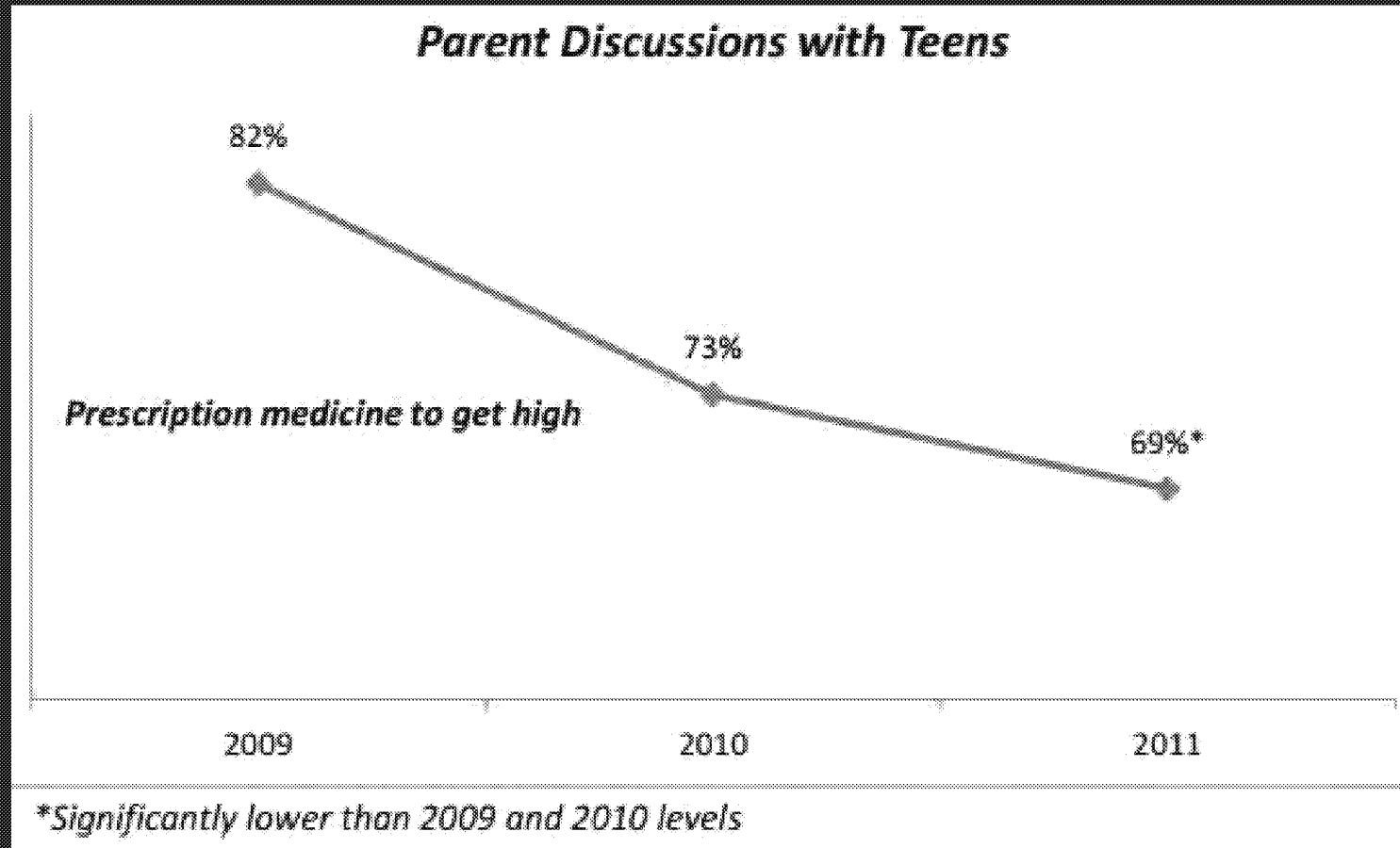
SOURCE: * 2012 National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) published September 2013 by the Dept of HHS/ Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

** The Partnership at Drugfree.org / MetLife Foundation Partnership Attitude Tracking Studies 2012 , published April 2013



Parents & Their Attitudes

Parents are not discussing the risks of abusing prescription drugs



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Source: 2011 Partnership Attitude Tracking Study

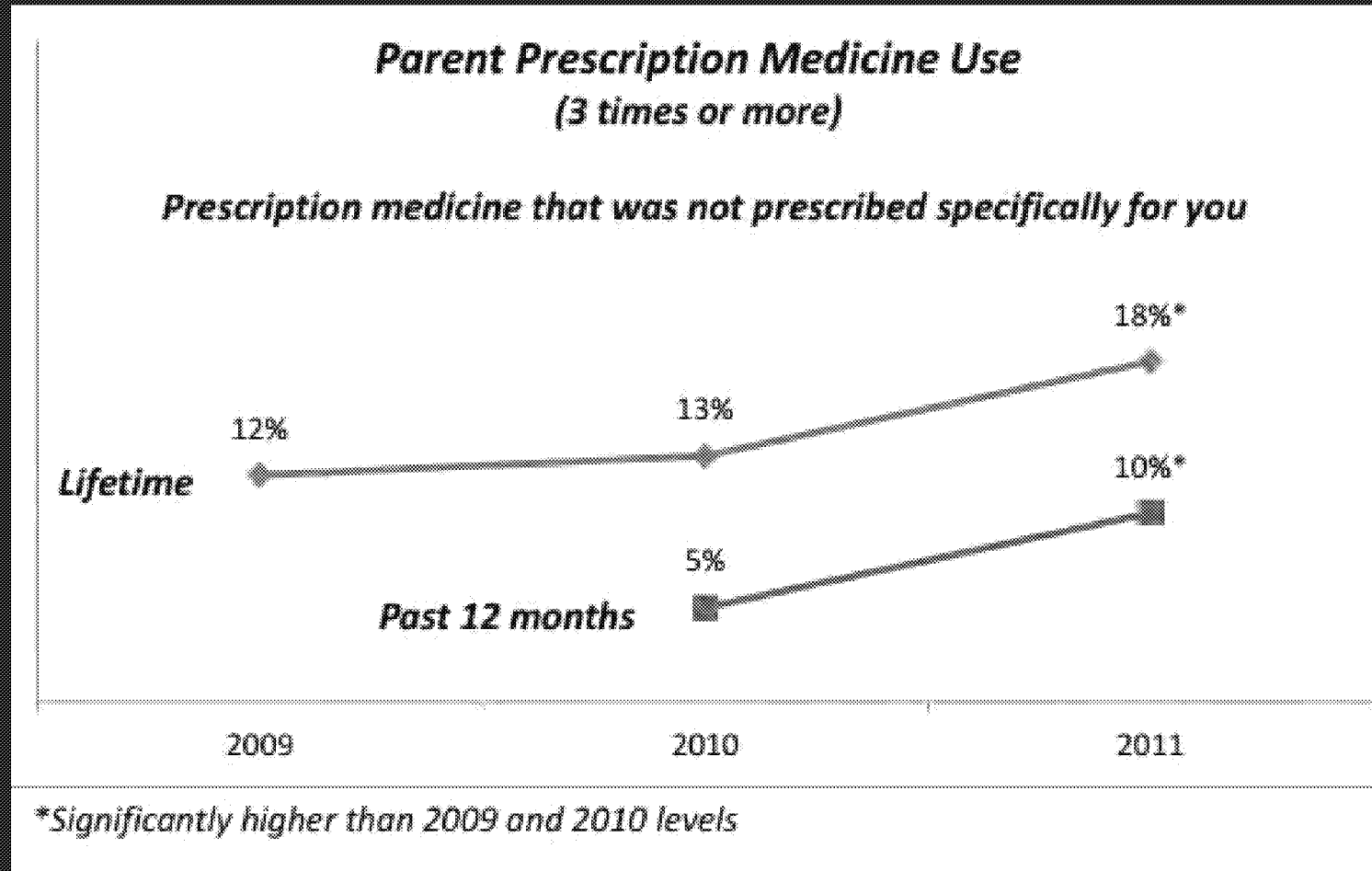
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Parents & Their Actions

Parents and their abuse of prescription drugs



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Source: 2011 Partnership Attitude Tracking Study

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Where do kids get their information from?

Case 3:17-cv-01362 Document 1149-6 Filed 10/30/20 Page 26 of 50 PageID #: 39941

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Drug Discussion	North America & South America
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Drugs in the Media	Social & Drug Discussion
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THE FRONT PAGE

A Letter to Bluelight and MAPS Forum members From Brad Burge (MAPS) and Sebastians_Ghost (BL)

by Sebastians_ghost Published on 05-04-2013 06:57

It is with great pride and enthusiasm that we announce today a major collaboration between Bluelight.ru and the Multidisciplinary Association for Psychedelic Studies.

Through the efforts of Brad Burge, MAPS' Director of Communications, Rick Doblin, MAPS' Founder and Executive Director, Sebastians_Ghost and The_Love_Bandit of Bluelight.ru, we will soon undertake an exciting partnership to reinvigorate the MAPS forum and increase opportunities for public education about psychedelic science and medicine. The existing plaintext email MAPS Forum will be migrating to Bluelight.ru, the world's leading drug information website. We're aiming to unveil the new MAPS Forums on Bluelight shortly before the Psychedelic Science 2013 symposium in mid-April.

In the coming weeks, the MAPS Forum will no longer be linked from maps.org. Instead, MAPS will provide a link to the new MAPS Forum hosted at Bluelight. MAPS will work closely with Bluelight to encourage public participation in our new "home" at Bluelight.ru as the migration of the MAPS Forum topics is completed.

...



Popularizing Controlled Substances Abuse



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Source: www.foxnews.com, August 29, 2013

Westchase teachers learn a lesson: Say 'no' to mints in pill bottles



One of the mint-filled pill bottles distributed to some fourth graders at Westchase Elementary.

By JOSÉ PATIÑO GIRONA | The Tampa Tribune
Published: February 8, 2010

What two fourth-grade teachers at Westchase Elementary School apparently thought was a creative way to calm students about to take the FCAT made at least one caregiver fear the teachers were sending a different message — that taking drugs while under stress is OK.

Sandy Young walked into her grandson's fourth-grade classroom last Thursday and saw pill bottles on each students' desk. Her mind raced with questions and thoughts of disbelief. Young said she immediately questioned Westchase Elementary fourth-grade teacher Beth Watson about the pill bottles, which were filled with pieces of small mint candy.

"She said it was nothing but some mints; it was just something special for the kids, for the FCAT to mellow them out," Young said.

Young said she was shocked and speechless and walked out of the room when Watson started the students on a math assignment.

Young said the pill bottles go against the lessons of teaching children to say no to drugs.

"We turn around and we have our teachers giving them drugs," said Young, 60, of Tampa. "I don't care if it's mints or not. ... If it's in a prescription bottle, it's a drug."

Young said the bottle reads in part, "Watson's Whiz Kid Pharmacy. Take 1 tablet by mouth EVERY 5 MINUTES to cure FCAT jitters. Repeated use may cause craft to spontaneously ooze from pores. No refills. Ms. (Deborah) Falcon's authorization required."

The school received one complaint since pill bottles were distributed on Thursday, said Linda Cobbe, a school district spokeswoman. It's believed only two fourth-grade teachers at the school distributed the pill bottles.

The principal met with the students on Monday to confirm the pill bottles contained mints that were safe to eat. The students were asked to dump the mints in a separate container and the pill bottles were thrown away, Cobbe said.

She said the bottle idea was tied to the children's book the students recently read, "George's Marvelous Medicine," about a boy who concocts potions to try to change the disposition of his cranky grandmother.

The teachers were just trying to use a creative way to get across to the students not to be stressed with the FCAT writing examination that will be administered to fourth-, eighth- and 10th-graders beginning today, Cobbe said.

"Elementary teachers do creative things to make learning fun," Cobbe said.

The teachers won't be disciplined, and it wasn't their intention to promote drug use, Cobbe said.

"I know that is not the intent of the teachers," Cobbe said. "That is not the outcome they would wish for."

Young said her grandson has been at Westchase Elementary for a year, and she hasn't had any complaints. But this experience has soured her. It concerns her that now someone might hand her grandson a pill bottle with drugs and he might think it's OK to consume its contents.

"We as parents and grandparents have to drill it into them that this is unacceptable and hope and pray that they don't accept drugs from someone else," Young said.

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Wrestler Benoit's doctor gets 10 years in prison

Updated 5/12/2009 2:34 PM | [Comment](#)| [Recommend](#)[E-mail](#) | [Print](#)[Enlarge](#)

WWE via AP

Wrestler Chris Benoit strangled his wife and 7-year-old son, then hung himself in a June 2007 murder-suicide. Benoit's personal doctor Phil Astin was sentenced to 10 years in prison on Tuesday for illegally distributing prescription drugs to patients.

that I must consider," Camp said.

A federal investigation found Astin wrote prescriptions without conducting physical exams and sometimes gave patients as many as four simultaneous prescriptions for Percocet. He also prescribed "cocktails" of drugs like Percocet, Oxycontin, Vicodin and Adderall.

"Medical doctors know that after a period of time, if the prescriptions are not working, you get them off," Assistant U.S. Attorney John Horn said during the hearing.

Investigators cited one case in which an unidentified female patient began receiving a combination of drugs that included Xanax from Astin in 2002. She died in June 2007, the same month authorities found Benoit and his family dead in their suburban Atlanta home.

NEWNAN, Ga. (AP) — The personal doctor to a professional wrestler who killed himself, his wife and their 7-year-old son was sentenced to 10 years in prison Tuesday for illegally distributing prescription drugs to patients.

Dr. Phil Astin, 54, had pleaded guilty Jan. 29 to a 175-count federal indictment.

Prosecutors said Astin prescribed painkillers and other drugs to known addicts for years. They said at least two of Astin's patients died because of his lax oversight of what medicines they were taking. However, the indictment was unclear about whether Chris Benoit, a wrestler for Stamford, Conn.-based World Wrestling Entertainment, was one of the two.

"I take full responsibility," Astin told the judge Tuesday. "I am sorry I hurt so many lives. I was thinking that I was looking after my patients."

U.S. District Judge Jack Camp said there was no doubt Astin tried to help hundreds of patients at his western Georgia clinic. But the judge said he could not overlook Astin's misconduct.

"The fact that two people did die outweighs other conditions

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Rush Limbaugh and prosecutors in the long-running prescription fraud case against him have reached a deal calling for the only charge against the conservative commentator to be dropped without a guilty plea if he continues treatment.

Limbaugh turned himself in to authorities on a warrant filed Friday charging him with possession of a controlled substance. He and his attorney Robert Barbera, a spokeswoman for the Palm Beach County Jail. He and his attorney Robert Barbera said.

Prosecutors' three-year investigation of Limbaugh began after he publicly acknowledged a rehabilitation program. They accused Limbaugh of "doctor shopping," or illegally obtaining prescriptions from multiple doctors. They said he received about 2,000 painkillers, prescribed by four doctors in six months.

Limbaugh, who pleaded not guilty Friday, has steadfastly denied doctor shopping and said he complies with court guidelines.

Coheed and Cambria Bassist Arrested Before Gig

Originally posted Jul 10th 2011 5:18 PM PDT by TMZ Staff

Michael Todd, the bassist for the band **Coheed and Cambria**, was arrested for armed robbery after he allegedly held up a Walgreens by claiming he had a bomb ... and this all went down right before they played a show!

Friday, June 3, 2011

Michael Baze accidentally overdosed

Associated Press

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Jockey Michael Baze, who won more than 900 horse races in a nine-year career, died from an accidental overdose of cocaine and prescription pain medicine at Churchill Downs, the coroner's office said Friday.

The 24-year-old Baze was pronounced dead on May 10. His body was found in his vehicle near the stables at the famed Louisville track.

Jefferson County Deputy Coroner Jim Wesley said the cause of death was multiple substance intoxication. Significant amounts of cocaine and the pain medication oxycodone were found in Baze's system, said Wesley, citing toxicology results.

Baze was facing a drug possession charge at the time of his death. The week he died, he was scheduled to appear at a preliminary hearing on a charge of first-degree possession of cocaine. He also was charged with possession of a controlled substance.

Baze was arrested last November on a warrant to arrest him on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.

His mother, Teri Gibson, said the death was a tragedy.

"I honestly thought he was not doing anything wrong," she said.

Baze was remembered for his kindness and for his love of horses.

Churchill Downs spokesman John P. ... who rode only briefly at Churchill Downs.

Hall of Fame rider Mike Smith ... asleep.

Jack Camp, Senior Federal Judge, Arrested On Drug, Gun Charges

ATLANTA — A veteran federal judge faces drug and firearms charges after an exotic dancer at an Atlanta strip club told authorities he used cocaine, marijuana and other illegal drugs with her.

Senior U.S. District Judge Jack T. Camp was arrested Friday minutes after he handed an undercover law enforcement agent \$160 for cocaine and Roxycodone, a narcotic pain medication, that he intended to use with the exotic dancer, authorities said in a court document released Monday. They said they also found two firearms in the front seat of his vehicle.

Camp, 67, who has presided over some high-profile cases, was released Monday on a \$50,000 bond. His attorney, William Morrison, said after a brief hearing that the judge intends to plead not guilty. Morrison said Camp would probably take a leave of absence and would not preside over any more cases until the charges are resolved.

Rangers' Boogaard died of alcohol, oxycodone mix

Updated 5/20/2011 11:09 PM |

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — The death of New York Rangers enforcer Derek Boogaard was an accident, due to a toxic mix of alcohol and the powerful painkiller oxycodone.

The Hennepin County Medical Examiner announced Boogaard's cause of death Friday, saying it was unclear exactly when the 28-year-old died. Boogaard was found dead in his Minneapolis apartment last month after he sustained a concussion.

his passion for the game, his teammates, and his community work was unstoppable."

Experts say mixing alcohol and medicines can cause dangerous reactions. Drinking alcohol while taking strong painkillers like oxycodone can result in breathing problems and increase the risk of an overdose, according to the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism.

The family thanked the Rangers, Minnesota Wild, the NHL and the NHLPA for "supporting Derek's continued efforts in his battle."

"Regardless of the cause, Derek's passing is a tragedy," NHL spokesman Frank Brown said in an email. The Rangers and Wild had no comment.

Boogaard's agent, Ron Salcer, said it has been a difficult time for the family.

Thomas Kinkadee cause of death: alcohol, Valium

Recommended 71

By Ann Olenburg, USA TODAY

Updated 2012-05-08 7:18

An autopsy has concluded that Thomas Kinkadee's death was caused by an accidental overdose.

NBC Bay Area News reported late Monday that the Santa Clara County medical examiner's autopsy is complete and reveals that Kinkadee died April 6 at his California home from a combination of alcohol and prescription drugs. He was 54.



AP Photo/Chris Wedel

By Steve Delaney, AP



**Russell Jones, aka
Ol' Dirty Bastard
November 13, 2004**



**Kenneth Moore,
aka Big Moe
October 14, 2007**



**Brittany Murphy
December 20, 2009**



**Anna Nicole
Smith
February 8, 2007**



**Heath Ledger
January 22, 2008**

DEATHS



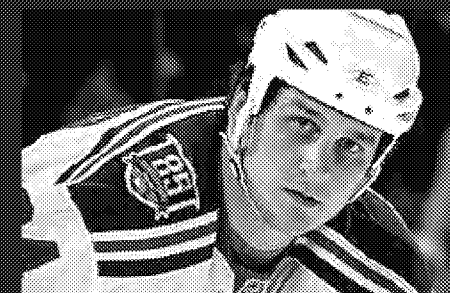
**Leslie Carter
January 31, 2012**



**Ken Caminiti
October 10, 2004**



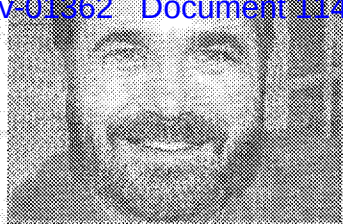
**Whitney Houston
February 11, 2012**



**Derek Boogaard
May 13, 2011**



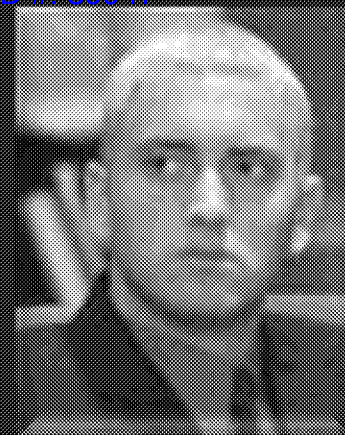
Noelle Bush



Billy Mays, the late pitchman

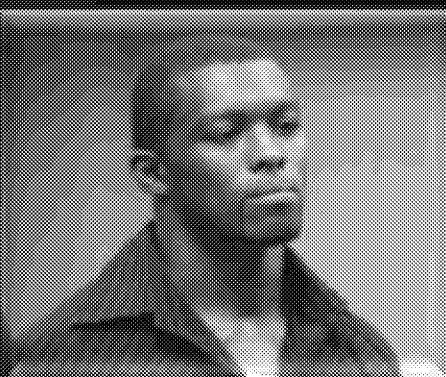
Autopsy: Cocaine had role in his death

Hillsborough County spokeswoman Lori Hudson said nothing in the toxicology report indicated the frequency of Mays' cocaine use. Cocaine can raise arterial blood pressure, directly cause thickening of the left wall of the ventricle and accelerate the formation of atherosclerosis in the coronary arteries, the release said.



Eminem

The toxicology tests also showed therapeutic amounts of painkillers hydrocodone, oxycodone and tramadol, and anti-anxiety drugs alprazolam and diazepam. Mays had suffered hip problems and was scheduled for hip-replacement surgery the day after he was found dead.



condo June 28.

Mays, 50, was a pop-culture fixture with his energetic commercials pitching gadgets and cleaning products like Orange Glo and OxiClean.

Heart disease was the primary cause of death, and a report released Friday by the medical examiner listed cocaine as a "contributory cause of death." The office said Mays last used cocaine in the few days before his death but was not under the influence of the drug when he died.

NEWSDAY, SATURDAY, AUGUST 8, 2015

Terrence Kiel

COVER: CARLTONS, PITCHMAN



Corey Haim



The Costs



Economic Costs

- \$55.7 billion in costs for prescription drug abuse in 2007¹
 - \$24.7 billion in direct healthcare costs
- Opioid abusers generate, on average, annual direct health care costs 8.7 times higher than non-abusers²

1. Birnbaum HG, White, AG, Schiller M, Waldman T, et al. Societal Costs of Prescription Opioid Abuse, Dependence, and Misuse in the United States. *Pain Medicine*. 2011;12:657-667.
2. White AG, Birnbaum, HG, Mareva MN, et al. Direct Costs of Opioid Abuse in an Insured Population in the United States. *J Manag Care Pharm*. 11(6):469-479. 2005



Addicted Infants Triple in a Decade

**USA
TODAY**

A GANNETT COMPANY

Prescription abuse

Addicted infants triple in a decade

3.4 out of 1,000 suffer painkiller withdrawal

By Liz Szabo
USA TODAY

The number of babies born addicted to the class of drugs that includes prescription painkillers has nearly tripled in the past decade, according to the first national study of its kind.

About 3.4 of every 1,000 infants born in a hospital in 2009 suffered from a type of drug withdrawal commonly seen in the babies of pregnant women who abuse narcotic pain medications, the study says. It's published today in *The Journal of the American Medical Association*.

Born into addiction

Babies exposed to drugs in the womb have more health problems than other newborns.

■ Drug-exposed
■ Other

Breathing problems



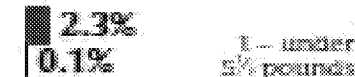
Low birthweight[†]



Feeding problems



Seizures



[†] — under 5 1/2 pounds

Source: Journal of the American Medical Association

By Frank Pompa, USA TODAY



Economic Costs

- Maternal opioid dependence can affect birth costs
- A recent study showed in 2009, the average hospital stay for opioid exposed infants with neonatal abstinence syndrome (NAS) was 16 days¹
- The hospitalization cost of treating each baby with NAS averaged \$53,400²
- State Medicaid programs paid for 77.6% of these births³

1. Patrick SW, Schumacher RE, Benneyworth BD, Krans EE, McAllister JM, Davis MM. Neonatal abstinence syndrome and associated health care expenditures: United States, 2000-2009. JAMA. 2012 May 9;307(18):1934-40. Epub 2012 Apr 30

2. Ibid.

3. Ibid.



National Poison Data System (Formerly known as Toxic Exposure Surveillance System) – Total Annual Mentions of Toxic Exposures

	Hydrocodone	Oxycodone
2001	15,191	9,480
2002	17,429	10,515
2003	19,578	11,254
2004	22,654	12,603
2005	22,229	13,191
2006	22,319	13,473
2007	24,558	15,069
2008	26,306	17,256
2009	27,753	18,396
2010	28,310	19,363
2011	30,792	19,423



Emergency Room Visits (2004-2010)

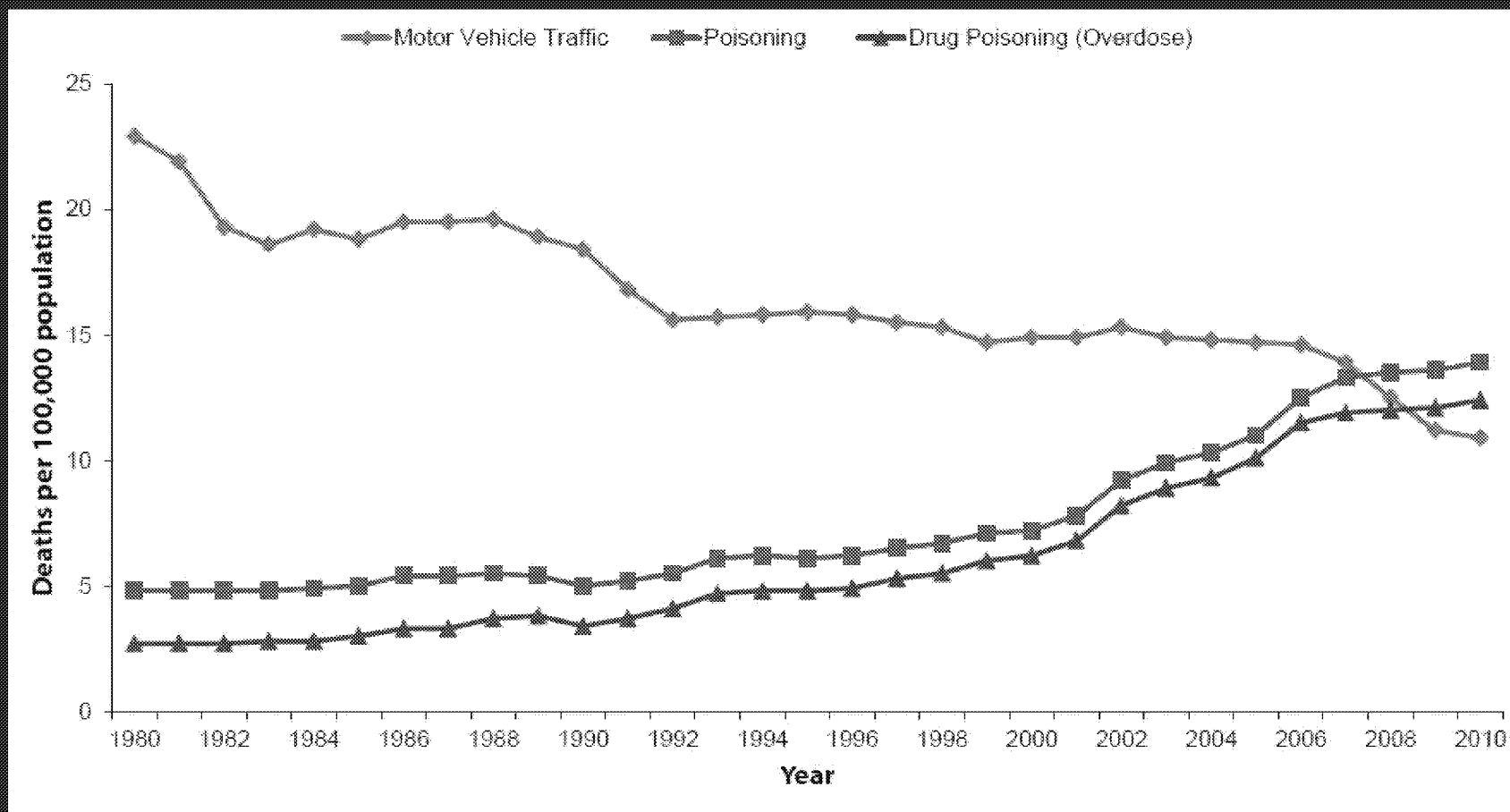
- Increase of 115%: ER visits attributable to **pharmaceuticals** (*i.e.*, with no other type of drug or alcohol) (626,472 to 1,345,645)
- **No Significant Change:** ER visits attributable to cocaine, heroin, marijuana, or methamphetamine

SOURCE: The DAWN Report, *Highlights of the 2010 Drug Abuse Warning Network (DAWN) Findings on Drug-Related Emergency Department Visits*, July 2, 2012



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U.S. Motor Vehicle Traffic, Poisoning, and Drug Poisoning (Overdose) Death Rates, 1980-2010

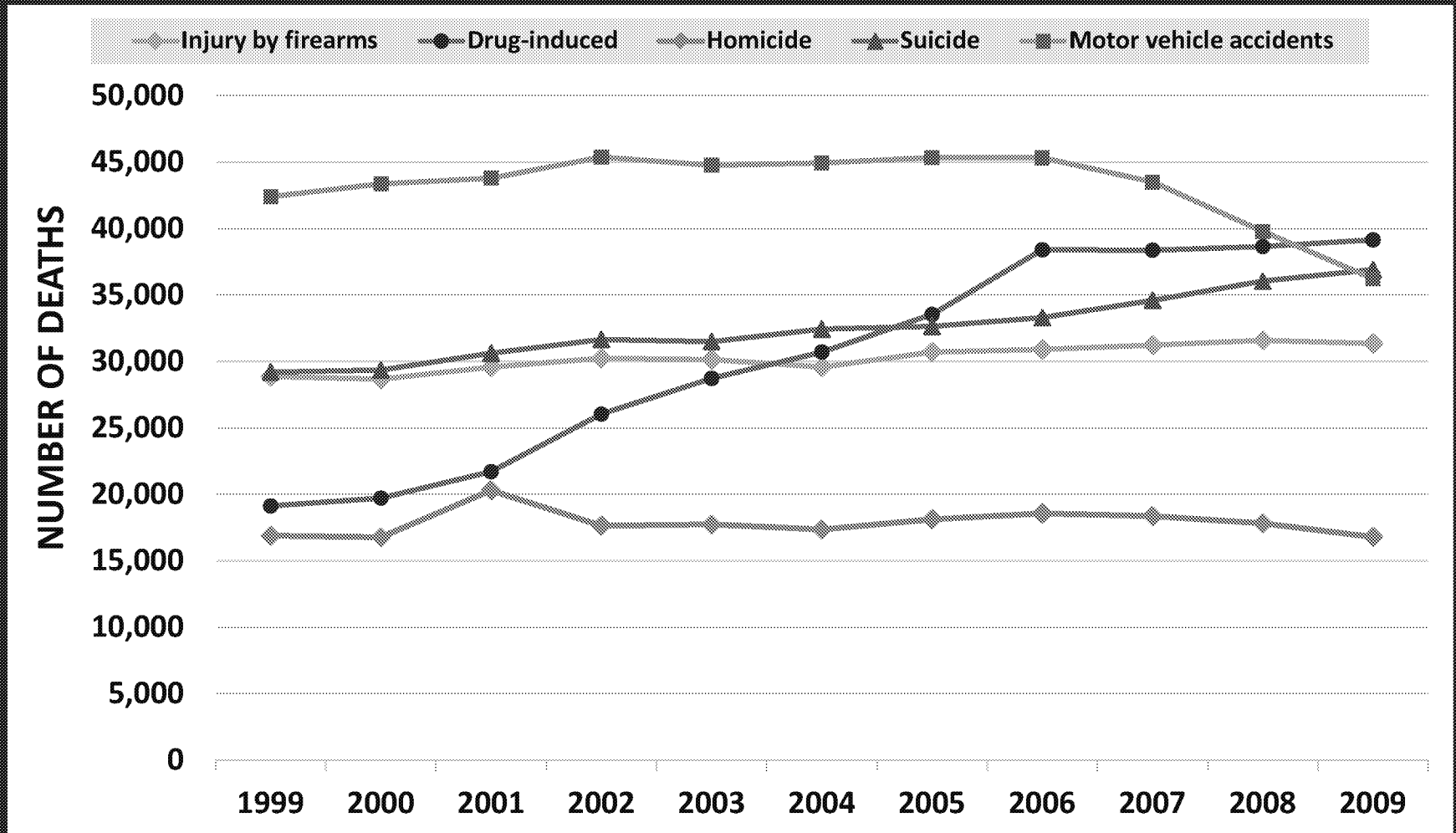


Source: CDC National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) Data Brief, December 2011, updated with 2009 and 2010 mortality data

U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration / Operations Division / Office of Diversion Control



Drug-Induced Deaths vs. Other Injury Deaths (1999–2009)



Causes of death attributable to drugs include accidental or intentional poisonings by drugs and deaths from medical conditions resulting from chronic drug use. Drug-induced causes exclude accidents, homicides, and other causes indirectly related to drug use. Not all injury cause categories are mutually exclusive.

Source: National Center for Health Statistics, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. National Vital Statistics Reports *Deaths: Final Data* for the years 1999 to 2009 (January 2012).



Public Health Impact of Opiate Analgesic Abuse

For every 1 unintentional opioid overdose death in 2010, there were...



Mortality figure is for unintentional overdose deaths due to opioid analgesics in 2010, from CDC/Wonder

Treatment admissions are for with a primary cause of synthetic opioid abuse in from TEDS

Emergency department (ED) visits related to opioid analgesics in from DAWN

Abuse/dependence and nonmedical use of pain relievers in the past month are from the National Survey on Drug Use and Health



United States Senate
COMMITTEE on FINANCE
Max Baucus, Chairman, (D-Mont.) Richard Shelby, Ranking Member, (R-Miss.)

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Contact: Communications Office (Baucus), 202-224-6515
Jill Gerber (Grassley), 202-224-6522

Baucus, Grassley Seek Answers about Opioid Manufacturers' Ties to Medical Groups

Finance Leaders Investigate Whether Pharmaceutical Companies Encouraged Non-Profit Organizations to Promote Misleading Information about Narcotic Painkillers

Washington, DC - Senate Finance Committee Chairman Max Baucus (D-Mont.) and senior Committee member Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa) initiated an investigation today into the connections of drug manufacturers Purdue Pharma, Endo Pharmaceuticals, and Johnson & Johnson with medical groups and physicians who have advocated the increased use of narcotic painkillers, or opioids. The Senators also asked seven other medical groups to produce information about their financial ties and collaborations with opioid manufacturers. In letters sent to each yesterday, Baucus and Grassley requested documents and financial information from the companies and noted that deaths resulting from opioid overdoses have recently skyrocketed, growing nearly 400 percent between 1999 and 2008, the most recent year data was available. They also highlighted news reports suggesting the increase may be driven by misinformation and dubious marketing practices used by the pharmaceutical companies and the medical organizations they fund.

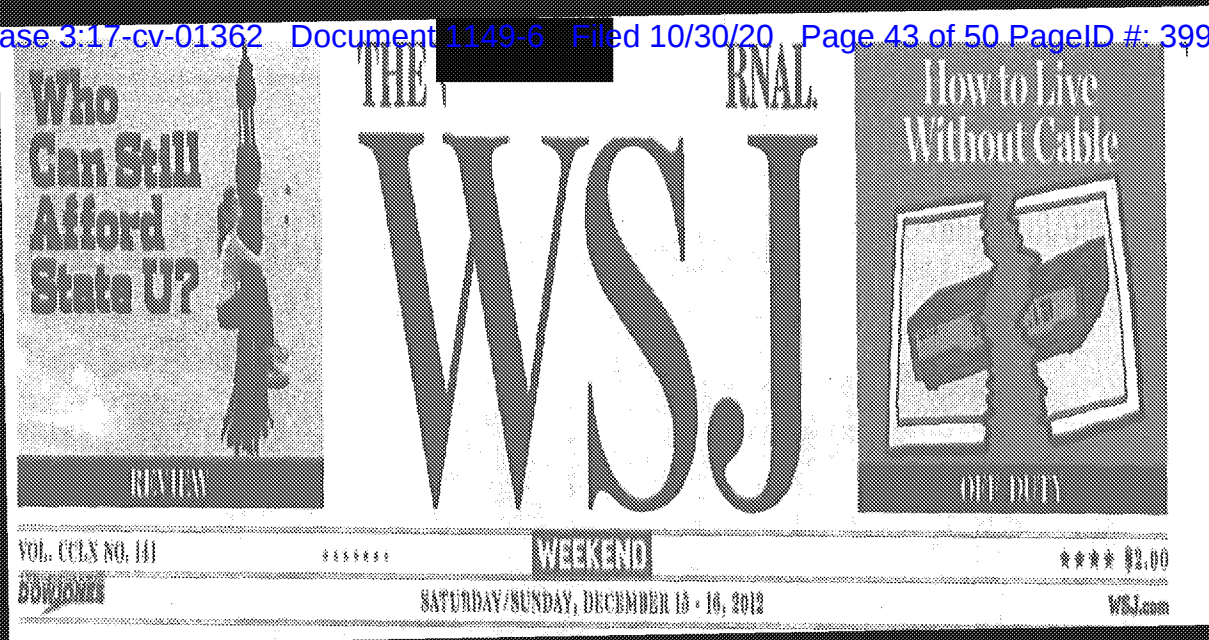
"Overdoses on narcotic painkillers have become an epidemic, and it's becoming clear that patients aren't getting a full and clear picture of the risks posed by their medications," Baucus said. "When it comes to these highly addictive painkillers, improper relationships between pharmaceutical companies and the organizations that promote their drugs can put lives at risk. These painkillers have an important role in health care when prescribed and used properly, but pushing misinformation on consumers to boost profits is not only wrong, it's dangerous."

"The problem of opioid abuse is bad and getting worse," Grassley said. "Something has to change. A greater understanding of the extent to which drug makers underwrite literature on opioids is a good start. Doctors and patients should know if the medical literature and groups that guide the drugs' use are paid for by the drugs' manufacturers and if so, how much. Education on the proper use of pain medication is a key step in preventing abuse and misuse, so it's important to understand what material is out there."

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have declared overdoses from opioid painkillers to be a public health epidemic. Deaths from painkiller overdoses have tripled over the last decade and led to the deaths of 14,000 Americans in 2008, exceeding those caused by heroin and cocaine combined. The

Related Files

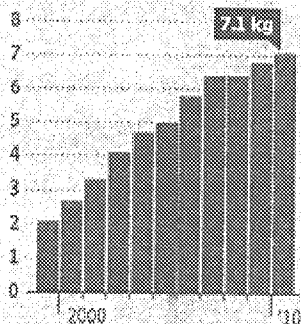
- Baucus Grassley Opioid Investigation Letter to Purdue Pharma (288.2 KB)
- Baucus Grassley Opioid Investigation Letter to Federation of State Medical Boards (276.8 KB)
- Baucus Grassley Opioid Investigation Letter to the Joint Commission (326.4 KB)
- Baucus Grassley Opioid Investigation Letter to Wisconsin Pain And Policy Studies Group (277.5 KB)
- Baucus Grassley Opioid Investigation Letter to American Academy of Pain Medicine (277.5 KB)
- Baucus Grassley Opioid Investigation Letter to American Pain Foundation (279.8 KB)
- Baucus Grassley Opioid Investigation Letter to American Pain Society (276.8 KB)
- Baucus Grassley Opioid Investigation Letter to Center for Practical Bioethics (276.5 KB)
- Baucus Grassley Opioid Investigation Letter to Johnson and



A Pain-Drug Champion Has Second Thoughts

On the Rise

Kilograms of opioids sold, per 10,000 people



Source: National Vital Statistics

By THOMAS CATAN

It has been his sell Portenoy app thoughts.

Two decades York pain-care s ment to help peo campaigned to painkillers derive that were long si cause of their ad

Dr. Portenoy's cessful. Today, d like Vicodin, Oxy among the most widely prescribed phar maceuticals in America.

Opioids are also behind the country's deadliest drug epidemic. More than

Now, Dr. Portenoy and other pain doctors who promoted the drugs say they erred by overstating the drugs' benefits and glossing over risks. "Did I teach about pain management, specifically about opioid therapy, in a way that reflects misinformation? Well, against the standards of 2012, I guess I did," Dr. Portenoy said in an interview with the Wall Street Journal. "We didn't know then what we know now."

thought, and questions whether opioids are effective against long-term chronic pain.

The change of heart among former champions of opioid use has happened

Among the assertions he and his follow- ers made in the 1990s: Less than 1% of opioid users became addicted, the drugs

he notice of many chiatrist Joseph hocked" after at- outlining the lat- isk.

e of everything . "You saw other it and saying, 'Oh ing?"

d they were dan- piods were long cer patients. But at they could be months or years in chronic pain.

Please turn to page A12



WHAT PEOPLE ARE ABUSING



Carisoprodol



C-IV as of 1/11/2012

Pharmaceuticals



Hydrocodone



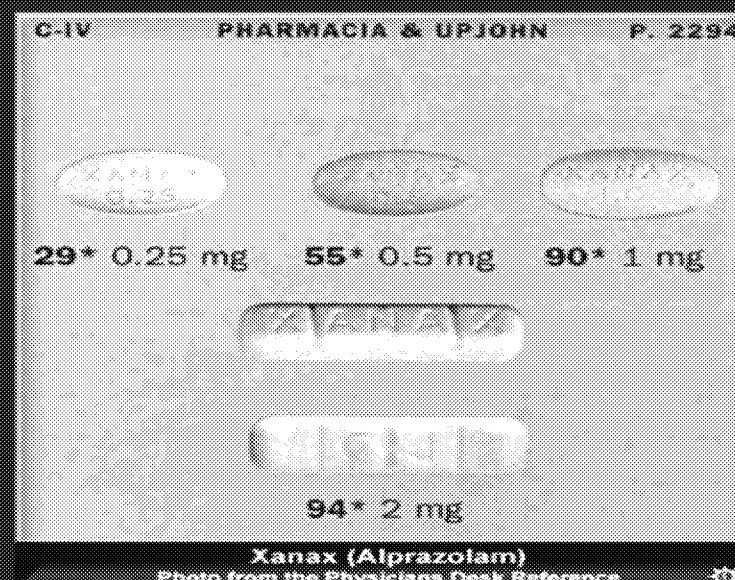
OxyContin 80mg



Oxymorphone



Oxycodone 30 mg



Alprazolam



HYDROCODONE



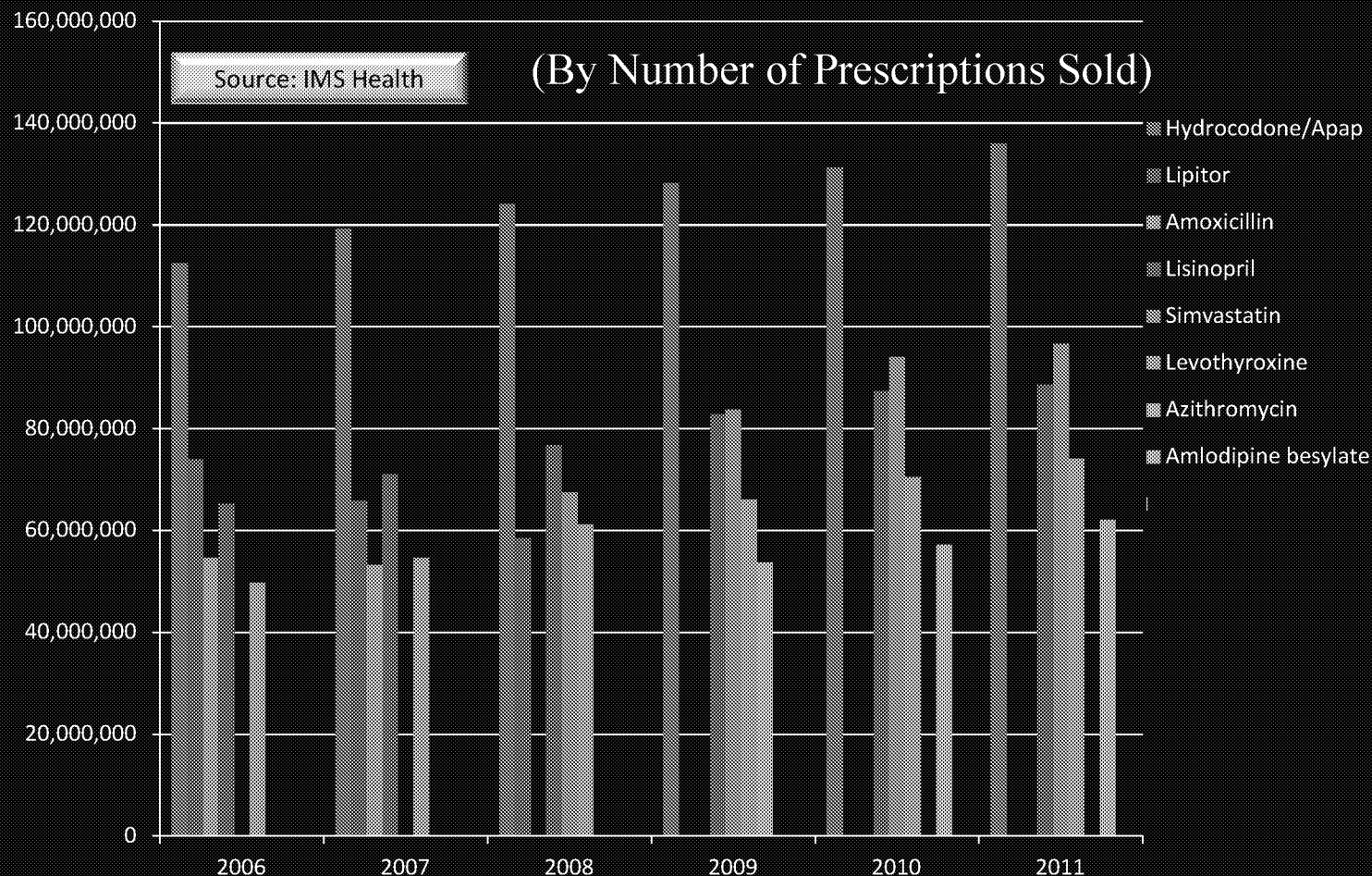
Hydrocodone

- Similarities:
 - Structurally related to codeine
 - Equal to morphine in producing opiate-like effects
- Brand Names: Vicodin[®], Lortab[®], Lorcet[®]
- Street prices: \$2 to \$10+ per tablet depending on strength & region





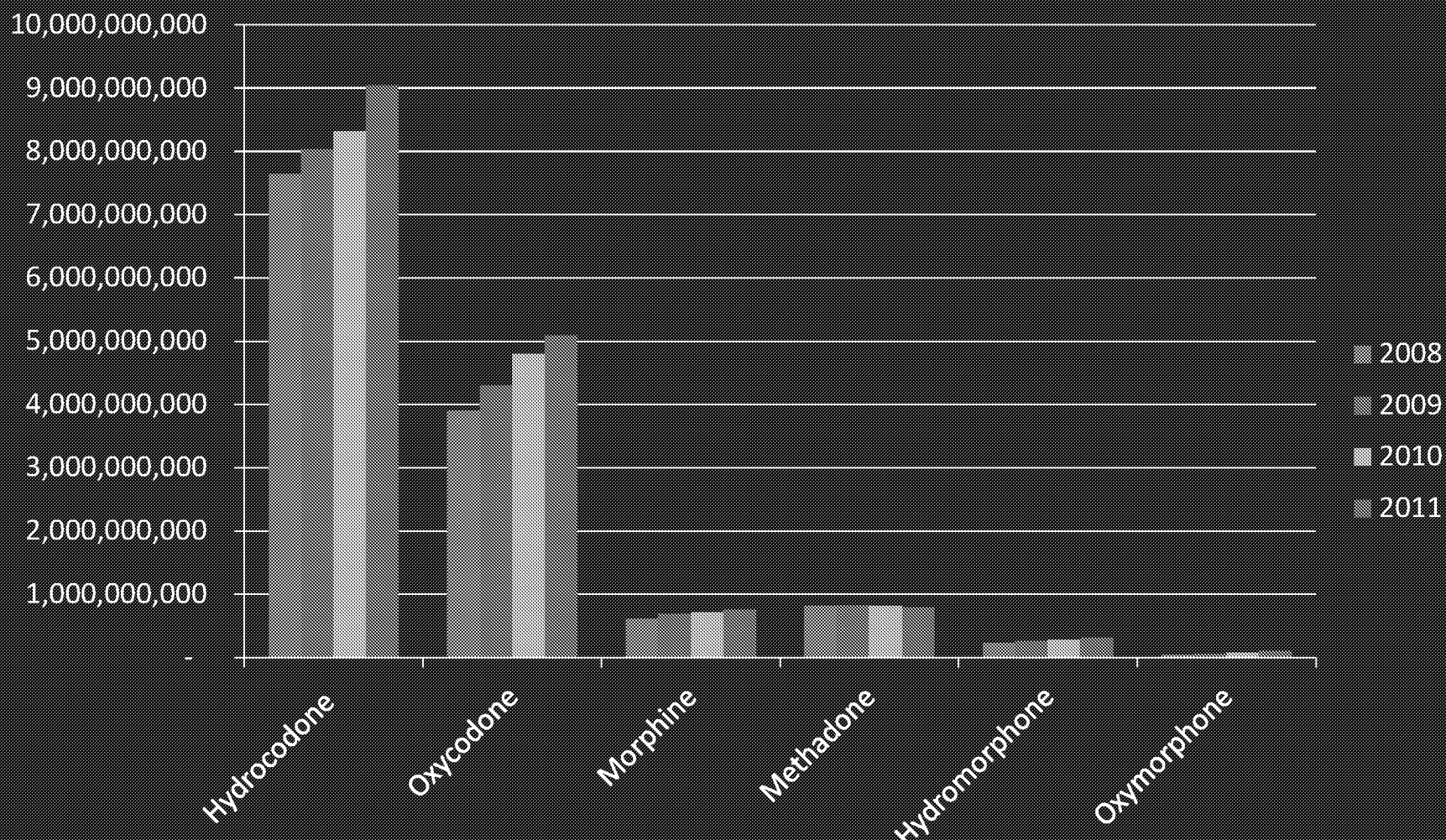
Top Five Prescription Drugs Sold in the U.S. (2006-2011)





Total U.S. Retail* Distribution of Selected Drugs

January 1, 2008 – December 31, 2011



*Retail includes pharmacies, hospitals, practitioners, mid-level practitioners, teaching institutions, and narcotic treatment programs.

Drug Enforcement Administration
Office of Diversion Control
Office of the Deputy Assistant Administrator

Source: ARCOS
Date Prepared: 08/28/2012

The Trinity

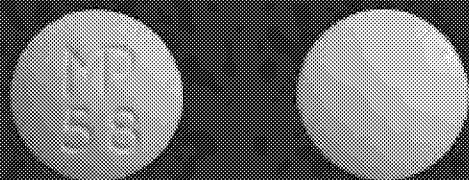


Hydrocodone



Opiate

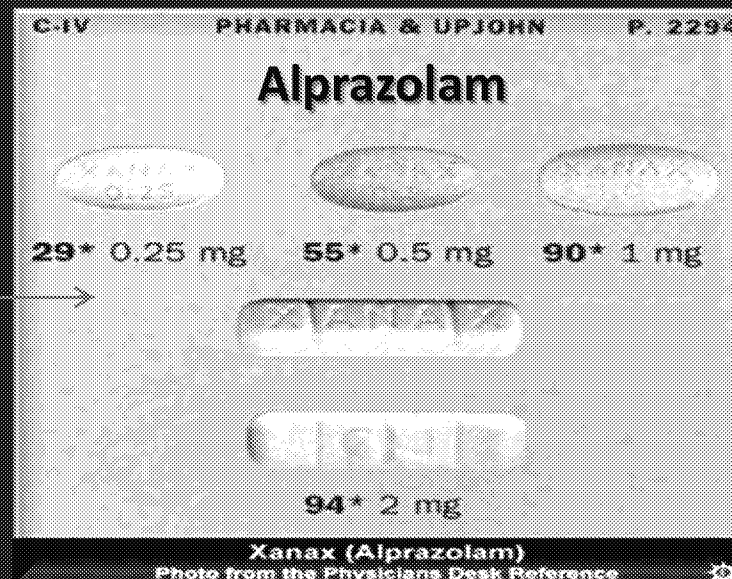
Carisoprodol



C-IV as of 1/11/2012

Muscle Relaxant

Alprazolam



Benzodiazepine